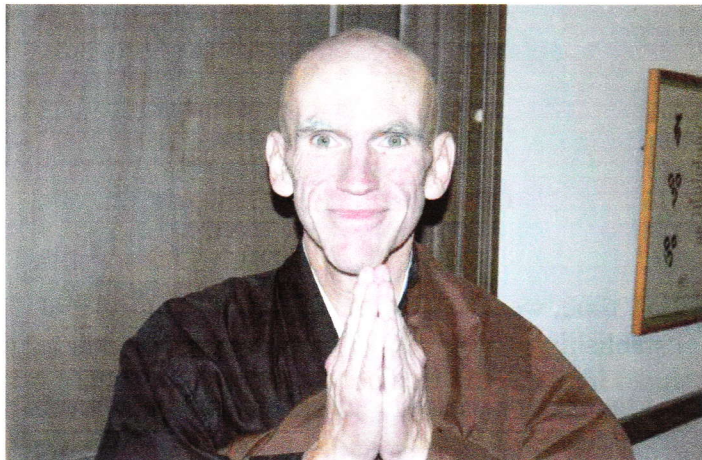


HARTFORD STREET ZEN CENTER "NEWS"

57 Hartford Street - Phone: 863-2507 - Email: hszc108@yahoo.com - Website: www.hszc.org - August, 2006



Reverend John King, Shishin Dainei
(September 1, 1944 - August 8, 2006)

Reverend John King, Shishin Dainei (which means Lion Heart, Great Peace), passed away on August 8th, the afternoon of the full moon. John was a founding member and devoted friend of Hartford Street Zen Center. His kindness and compassion illuminate our practice.

"There once was a Buddha called Boundless Light,
Most auspicious among the auspicious;
He once entered this tree-adorned hall
Therefore this place is most auspicious."
-- Avatamsaka Sutra

A full memorial service is scheduled for John on the afternoon of August 26th at 300 Page Street. More details to follow. With bows and love.



Hartford Street Zen Center

A memorial altar, made by John's meditation group members at San Quentin Prison, will be placed in the garden at Hartford Street Zen Center.

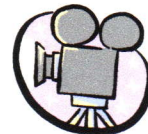
HARTFORD STREET HISTORY

(Early Years 1984-1989)

Written by founding member, David Bullock

From 1984, HSZC continued to meet and late in 1986, Issan, who had been studying with Baker-roshi in New Mexico, returned to take his place as our resident priest. Our growth at that point was gradual but with an ever increasing busy schedule of lectures, classes, ceremonies and sittings. There were more funerals and memorial services than ever due to deaths from AIDS.

JD Kobezak, a sangha member with AIDS had been living at the center since 1987 and in November, 1988, Issan gave lay precepts to JD in our first Jukai ceremony. Also at that time, Kijun Steve Allen and Angelique Farrow, long time friends of Issan, moved in to help with the initial phase of creating an AIDS hospice. The idea grew directly out of our caring for JD. The name Maitri for the hospice seemed appropriate given its meaning (love and compassion) and our previous use of the term to include everyone in our sangha. (to be continued)



Movie Nights

Please join us for our 3rd Sunday of the month movie night, Sunday August 20th at 6:00 pm to view the documentary, "Enron: The Smartest Guys in the Room." After the film, we'll have dessert and discussion. Thanks to Max and Mimi, Executive Producers. **You too can be a Producer or Director!**

----- Other ways you can help the Temple -----

You can help in many small ways. You can share your time, resources and gifts helping with various sangha activities, like cooking for retreats, organizing the library, writing for the newsletter, helping with building management and repairs, hosting tea and cookies, providing printing services, or performing as jiko (incense carrier) or other zendo duties. If interested in more information, please contact us at hszc108@yahoo.com.

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MORNING (Monday-Friday)

5:30am-6:10 Zazen - Sitting Meditation
6:10am-6:20 Kinhin - Walking Meditation
6:20am-7:00 Zazen
7:00am-7:20 Chanting (Service)
7:20am-7:35 Soji - Temple Cleaning

EVENING (Monday-Friday)

6:00pm-6:40 Zazen
6:40pm-6:50 Chanting

SATURDAY MORNING

6:30am-7:15 Zazen
7:15am-7:35 Chanting
7:35am-7:55 Soji
[BREAK]
9:10am-9:50 Zazen
10:00am-11:00 Dharma Talk followed by
tea and cookies and discussion.

SUNDAYS and HOLIDAYS - Closed

RETREATS and INSTRUCTION

- * 1-day retreats (First Saturdays of the month)
- * Zazen instruction (brief form) at 8:30am (2nd and 4th Saturdays); long form 1pm (3rd Saturdays with pre-registration).

SPEAKERS

Upcoming Guest Speakers: We are pleased that Revs. Daigaku Rumme, Shinshu Roberts and Jeffrey Schneider will be at HSZC to give dharma talks in the near future. Check the website or the bulletin boards at HSZC to find out the exact dates.

Recent Guest Speaker:

Our thanks to Rev. Greg Fain for his talk on the "Opportune Moments To Practice."



----- Saturday Zazen -----

Our Saturday Zazen and Dharma talks have been drawing a larger following and we welcome you to join us. It's been exciting to add the second and third rows of zabutans and zafus for this period of celebrating the three jewels. See you there.



Our Beautiful Zen Garden

By David Bullock

Last time, we left off with our beginning efforts at establishing some order. Then after moving some roses into a sunny area newly allocated for them, we decided that our first major effort would be to create a cohesive seating area with adjacent borders. Considerations as to the patio design were the bamboo, the ginkgo tree, the Tibetan shrine and the need for a compost pile/work area. We also wanted seating in sun and shade. We thought about moving the shrine but decided not to as it had been intentionally placed there, facing east. It did pose a difficulty though, how to view its inscribed (eastern) side without standing in a flower bed? We wanted to keep the gracefully curving path, separating the new rose bed and the patio to be, and somehow transition it into the seating area. The solution was to continue the line of the path as an edging, making an ever tightening spiral which reverses upon itself by the shrine and curves back to create the backside of a secondary but connected patio. The edge is of brick and the surface is of pea gravel. The overall effect of this odd shape is at once of elegant lines and whimsy, rather like a paisley pattern. Thanks to all the Sangha members who helped with the gravel bucket brigade. The work went smoothly and was a lot of fun. (more garden info in future newsletters)

HIV and Friends Sitting Group

The HIV, Friends and Caregivers Sitting group would like to invite you to join us. We meet on Thursdays and Fridays from 10:30-11:30am. After 30 minutes of meditation, we adjourn to the garden for social time and support. All are welcome.

DANA

Donations are important for us to remain viable and to continue the work started by Issan Dorsey. Thank you for your *dana* (generosity)!